

KENTUCKY IRISH AMERICAN.

Devoted to the Moral and Social Advancement of all Irish Americans.

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EXCUSES OF SLATE FIXTURES

Excuse put forth by the machine that it costs too much to provide a primary election is scarcely logical. Nowadays it is a well-known fact that every man offering for important position must have a considerable amount of cash. The machine that he ought secure his own party nomination practically without cost (in fact be set up by a few powerful men behind the machine), in order that he may have more cash wherewith to fight his political opponents, is not founded on right and justice. Any aspirant who has cash to make a race when nominated ought at least be willing to expend some of it in securing his nomination by fair means. This is especially true when, by every means in their power, the people make it evident that they favor a primary as the fairest method possible.

In all seriousness the Kentucky Irish American expresses its conviction that the people of Louisville, and people of Kentucky generally, are heartily weary of seeing a few constituted leaders get together, after year, and in the privacy of a secret chamber, fix up a slate of candidates without a moment's regard to the wishes of those who are to do the voting. It is incredible that such leaders should believe they better know whom the people want than the voters do themselves. The method is one that has obtained for a long time, it is true, but lately it is becoming tryannous. Some fine morning the slate fixers will wake up and find their great slate split from "end to end." Any aspirant anxious to hold office must of necessity be equally anxious to obtain it honestly. So far as we know most of those at present before the people are willing the people should have a voice in making selection.

IN THE NAME OF MORALITY!

There are bad, very bad women, wicked, degraded, cruel, a menace, nuisance, curse to a community. Indeed the vilest creature is a degraded woman—about the only being that utterly loses all self-respect. Still she is a woman, and as such should be respected by all claiming decency. Respect for woman is the basis of morality, and however pretensions it may be there is no real morality that lacks respect for woman. We are aware there are those who distinguish between a lady and a woman, but there is no real difference as to respect, and he who has not respect for woman has but a sham respect for the lady. Christian civilization is most at variance with pagan barbarism in that it teaches and requires respect for woman, however ignorant, wicked, degraded she may be—she is a woman, and morality demands she be respected as such.

The law must restrain and punish women as well as men, but the restraint and punishment must be within bounds of decency and privacy not required with men, lest morality be shocked, decency outraged, and disrespect for woman be fostered and immortality encouraged. The degraded woman subjected to punishment may feel no humiliation, but the moral sense of the public, the opinions and ideals of propriety, of moral truth and worth, may be shocked, if not distorted to the vile and licentious. And when such is enacted by officers of the law in obedience to a decree of court it is worse and more far-reaching, as having the sanction of law, and seems therefore its acceptance is the

more ready and effect more immediate and lasting.

We can not but condemn the stripping and whipping in public of two women in Suffolk, Va., last week. They were, no doubt, degraded wretches, of whom the community should be rid; their presence, as well as conduct, a menace to the morals of the city; but there was no occasion for the shockingly indecent spectacle of stripping and whipping them in public. Such vulgar brutality will not prove conducive of morals. A man may be stripped and whipped in public with a beneficial effect to the public, as well as a humiliation to him and a deterrent to other vicious characters; but not a woman, especially one of that character. She has lost all sense of humiliation. Women of her kind may feel embittered, but not deterred from evil, and the effect on the community is best illustrated among the savages where such beastly scenes are common, and where morality is, of course, unknown.

There can be no defense of the Suffolk whipping in this age. It was revoltingly immoral, even though done in the name of morality. Suffolk may get rid of an undesirable class, but it will not gain in morals and decency by such barbarous methods of suppressing immorality, which make a vulgar and degrading exhibition of woman, by stripping and whipping her in public. If those women deserved whipping decency demands that it should have been administered in private.

WHAT WILL ENGLAND DO?

Russia and France have packed the cards again in the Chinese game. England is particularly anxious that no power obtain territory, and persisted till all agreed they would not accept territory in satisfaction for damages. Then they began fixing a value on their claims. The United States urged that the amount be within the possibility of China to pay and that she be given time to pay. This was not agreeable and the United States virtually withdrew, and the powers have presented their bill of damages, aggregating \$600,000,000. China is given the alternative of accepting the ultimatum, and seems willing, but how is she to pay such a sum?

There is the rub, and while the Ministers are cogitating on a plan to enable China to pay them Russia makes a proposition to loan China the money and take the Province of Manchuria as collateral till the money is repaid by China. Of course France is to loan Russia the money. It is the same game by which Russia came to the financial aid of China after her defeat by Japan, by which Russia secured two southern seaports as outlets for her Siberian railroads, harbors and her fleet and supply bases for her army. But Russia will thereby secure Manchuria, extend her railroads, add harbors and establish military posts, and with France be master in the East; the result which England has sought so earnestly to prevent, and has had the quasi co-operation of Germany.

Of course, England will protest, but Germany! Well, it is the problem what Germany will do. Germany wants money, indeed needs it, and if Russia's proposition is accepted will get it. Germany also is desirous of railroad, port and trade concessions in China, and Russia may grant these if she gets Manchuria, and Germany has shown a willingness to leave England to sink alone rather than sink with her.

England needs money badly, is seeking to borrow everywhere, and her bonds are already below par, though she would doubtless risk all rather than permit Russian and French supremacy in the East.

But if Russia insists, and she usually is in earnest in such matters, and China is willing to accept the only means of paying off her many creditors, what right have the other powers to object to China securing the money by giving a mortgage on her territory? This raises an international issue, and nations sometimes fight over less. If China claims the right to do this, on what ground can it be denied? Outside of right there is only one force—war. But it will take money, and lots of it, to go into such a war. England is bankrupt, Germany has none to spare and is borrowing to cover up deficits; the United States will not be in it. Of the others France holds the money bags, is willing to loan to Russia and Russia will finance China. So there you are. Russia and France are likely to settle the Chinese muddle; decidedly not as England wants it settled, but settle it.

TAKING HIS OWN CENSUS.

The latest issue of the Memphis Catholic Journal contains a warm eulogy of a method pursued by a young clergyman widely known and highly esteemed in Louisville. During the last year Father Gaffney was stationed at the Dominican priory of this city, and was only recently sent to Memphis to serve his order as prior in that city. Says the Catholic Journal:

"Rev. Father Gaffney, O. P., pastor of St. Peter's, is taking an accurate house to house census of the Catholics in the parish. This is the first time such a census has been taken; heretofore some of the predecessors of Father Gaffney have made an attempt to do this work, but never with satisfactory results. They depended too much on the city directory and their assistant priests. Father Gaffney is doing the work himself, thoroughly and in a practical way. When he finishes he will know just how many Catholics belong in St. Peter's parish, and not only this, but he will know where they live and who they are. It is his desire to become personally acquainted with every one of his parishioners, the poor as well as the rich. The example of Father Gaffney should be emulated by every pastor in the diocese."

The advantage of the method adopted by Father Gaffney is obvious at a glance. Surely it is of great value to a clergyman to know precisely how many parishioners he has in his parish, where they live and how they live. When it is understood that St. Peter's is one of the great parishes in Memphis the extent of Father Gaffney's self-imposed labor can be appreciated.

The decision of the Court of Appeals puts the Council in control of the police and fire departments and enforces the economic ordinances reducing the appropriations for these departments. The first move affects the police, ten patrolmen having been dismissed, and officials will be reduced to the ranks. The same course will be pursued in the fire department. Economy is a good thing, but wrongly applied, as we believe it is in this case, it works a loss and injury to the city. Louisville has never had enough police and firemen, hence the slow development of our suburbs, which become the resort of the lawless because of lack of police, and the cost of insurance is heavy because of lack of fire protection. The Council is practicing economy along the wrong lines, which seriously affects the very people who need this protection, and who really get nothing from the city for the taxes they pay. Economy might be applied in other departments, where a larger amount could be saved. We need more police and firemen instead of less.

Not in Louisville alone, but over all Kentucky, are Irishmen at the front in all enterprises and in every field of activity. Up at Maysville

an Irishman's son, Hon. James Kehoe, is the first Catholic ever elected to Congress from the State. Irishmen are prominent in Owensboro, Henderson, Paducah, Covington, Lexington, Frankfort—everywhere. Twenty-five years ago the Scotch-Irish claimed everything in sight. Nowadays the hyphenated bi-racial humbug is hastening toward extinction.

Those who are forever clamoring that the State should investigate Catholic convents ought direct their gaze in the direction of the present Hopkinsville Insane Asylum scandal, down in West Kentucky. The conclusion which every just mind must reach is that the State will have plenty to do if it minds its own morals. Whoever heard of such scandal in connection with a Catholic convent?

Pope Leo XIII., it is said, soon will present to the world an encyclical condemning the anti-Catholic legislation proposed by the lawmakers of France, Spain and Portugal. For centuries the church has specially favored those Latin countries, yet few nations have shown greater ingratitude. Even cherished Italy today imprisons the Vicar of Christ.

The tollgates disappeared forever from Jefferson county last Wednesday. The movement for this public deliverance was inaugurated years ago by John Kelly, without whose aid it would not have succeeded for many years to come. This is another instance of what Irishmen have done for Kentucky's advancement.

Martin J. Minogue will this month call upon Kentucky Irish American subscribers. All should give him a cordial reception and at the same time have the subscription price ready.

Written for the Kentucky Irish American. MEMORIES OF DAYS GONE BY.

When the last shades of evening darken the west
And the glorious sun sinks to its rest,
I sit and I ponder, I think and I sigh,
Over dear Ireland and the days long gone by.

In fancy again I skip over the lea
And gather the shells down by the sea;
I am again in the pasture, again in the field,
And with pleasure and pain to my thoughts I yield.

For the pleasure they bring, those thoughts of the past,
Will ever be cherished while my life shall last
But the pain is because I shall never no more
Behold dear old Ireland as in the bright days of yore.

If I could only see my old home again,
Only to wander once more in the glen,
Only to see my mother's sweet face,
And to be clasped once more in her loving embrace.

When I am worn with suffering and with sorrow oppressed
The memories of the past bring to me rest,
For then I am again climbing the green hills of Ireland
To gather the shamrock that shone through the mireland.

Yes, I sit and I ponder, I sit and I think,
For chain of my memory has bright golden links;
This chain that holds me in Ireland's sweet tie
Will grow stronger and dearer as the years go by.

RECENT DEATHS.

Edward Rider, an old resident of the West End and for many years a well known hackman, died Thursday morning at the residence of his son-in-law, Officer Richard Nash, 2121 Griffiths avenue. His funeral takes place this morning from St. Cecilia's church.

The funeral services over the remains of Michael Carroll, a well known and respected resident of the West End, who died Saturday night at his home on High avenue, were held Monday morning at the Church of Our Lady in Portland, Rev. Father Cuniff being the celebrant of the mass. There were many present at the impressive services.

We regret to announce the death of Edward Mackey, son of the late Michael Mackey, who died Thursday night at the residence of his mother, 1901 Griffiths avenue, after a long illness of consumption. The deceased was an engineer and was also popular in local base ball circles, in which sport he took great interest. Two brothers, James and John, survive him. His funeral takes place Saturday morning from St. Patrick's church.

"Speaking of singing," exclaimed the nightingale sneeringly, "of what earthly use are you? You couldn't touch a high note in a thousand years."
"Oh, I don't know," replied the bird of paradise. "I'm likely to be embalmed on a bonnet some day, and then I'll make a fifty dollar note look like thirty cents."

SOCIETY.

Misses Belle and Mary Arnold left Friday for Bedford.

Miss Eva Macklin was a visitor here the first part of the week.

J. T. Mack, of Danville, was here this week visiting his friends.

Miss Ida Applegate, of Charlestown, Ind., is here visiting friends.

Miss Emma Ryan, of Jeffersonville, has gone to Crothersville to visit friends.

Thomas J. Batman and wife were among this week's visitors at West Baden Springs.

Mrs. Kate Lee, of New Albany, spent several days this week visiting friends in Charlestown.

Tom Carr has returned from Charlestown, where he spent several days visiting his parents.

Miss Elenora Schaulie is visiting friends at Colesburg, where she will remain some time.

Miss Stella Peter had as her guest this week a charming young girl from New Orleans, Miss Miles.

Mrs. Herman Rave, wife of Jeffersonville's popular Sheriff, left Wednesday for Salem to visit her brother.

Louisville society will be well represented at this year's Confederate reunion, which will be held at Memphis this month.

Among those sojourning at West Baden this week was Rev. Patrick M. Flanagan, one of Chicago's very popular Catholic pastors.

Miss Blanche Heybach has gone to Chicago, where she will hereafter reside. Many admirers regret her departure from Louisville.

Miss Edith Wheeling, of Baltimore, arrived in Louisville Thursday and is the charming guest of Mrs. Edward J. McDermott.

John Riley and children, of Powderly, Ala., arrived in New Albany this week and are visiting Henry Koch and wife, Pearl street.

Mrs. Edward Corcoran, of Jeffersonville, has arrived home after a pleasant visit with her sister, Mrs. J. J. Gainey, at Ludlow, Ky.

Mrs. Will Semonin has almost entirely recovered from her recent illness. Her host of friends will rejoice when she can again take her place in their midst.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Shanahan had as their guests this week Mr. and Mrs. George Stevens, of Richmond, who are quite prominent in Virginia's best society circles.

John Mesgher, one of Frankfort's most prominent citizens, was here for a few days this week. His Louisville friends would rejoice were he to move and make this city his home.

The many friends of Mrs. Ben Sand will read with pleasure the news that she has almost recovered from the severe illness that has confined her to her home in Portland for some time past.

The surprise of the week was the announcement of the engagement of Robert Wayne, of the Temple Stock Company, and Miss Lena Hill, of Owensboro, a young woman of great beauty.

The many friends of popular John Reardon have been daily calling upon him at Eighth and Oldham and congratulating him upon his recovery after an illness of several weeks with typhoid fever. All are glad to see him home again.

One of the notable weddings of the past week was that solemnized at St. Peter's church in Owensboro, when Eugene Kelly, of this city, and Miss Ophelia Berry, the lovely daughter of W. H. Berry, an influential citizen of Sorgho, were united in marriage. Richard Kelly, of this city, and Miss Esther Alvey, of Owensboro, were the attendants.

SIDE-LIGHTS ON LIFE.

The average woman will forgive her rival anything but her beauty.

If a girl has two strings to her beau there is danger of some other girl getting hold of one of the strings.

The early bird catches the worm—and later in the day the leisurely sportsman gathers in the bird.

The average man can hear the whisper of a pretty woman further than he can the loudest call of duty.

There are some people whose religion reminds me of a rocking horse, which has motion without progress.

Many a true heart, that would have come back like a dove to the ark after its first transgression, has been driven beyond recall by the harsh words of an unforgiving spirit.

A little philosophy inclineth man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.

If I offer you money, you do not say to me, "I will come tomorrow." No; you accept it at once. No one delays, no one makes excuses. The salvation of the soul is offered and no one hurries himself.

GRAND OUT OF TOWN EXCURSION.

"Big Four Route," Sunday, May 6, to points in Indiana Gas Belt. Special train leaves Seventh Street Union depot at 7 o'clock a. m. Returning train arrives at Louisville at 11:40 p. m. Extremely low round trip rates as follows: Rushville, \$1; Knightstown, \$1; Anderson, \$1.25; Muncie, \$1.25; Alexandria, \$1.25. Tickets on sale at city office, 218 Fourth avenue, and at Seventh Street depot. S. J. Gates, General Agent.

E.T. (DICK) Schmitt

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SHERIFF

JEFFERSON COUNTY.

Subject to the Action of the Democratic Party.

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CANDIDATE FOR

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